GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4113
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2002
IMPORT OF MM GRAD ROCKETS
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry concluded a contract with a foreign supplier in March, 1996 for import of 23500 units of 122 mm Grad Rockets alongwith fuzes/components at a total cost of Rs. 73.53 crore;

(b) whether as per instructions of the Ministry in October, 1985 stores were to be inspected within 15 days of receipt from foreign suppliers but despite receipt of supplies in May, 1997, Controller of Quality Assurance (Ammunition) Kirkee called for samples for check proof only in August, 1997 i.e. after expiry of 60 days;

(c) if so, whether the matter has been enquired into the delay in carrying out inspection of imported rockets;

(d) if so, whether any responsibility and accountability has been fixed for causing loss to the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether DGQA has been found lacking in the performance of its duties time and again; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to enquire into the functioning of that department and to take measures to improve the quality of work therein?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Instructions of Ministry of Defence issued in October 1985 direct the inspection of stores within 15 days of its receipt from foreign suppliers pertain only to physical inspection of stores not to check-proof. Supplies were received at Central Ammunition Depot (CAD), Pulgaon in May, 1997 and its intimation was conveyed by Depot on 30.6.1997 and received by Controller of Quality Assurance (CQA), Pune on 14.7.1997.Thereafter, samples were drawn by DGQA at CAD, Pulgaon in August, 1997Hence there was no delay in carrying out inspection of the imported rockets.

(c) No enquiry was required as full consignment of rockets was cleared in check proof and declared serviceable by the DGQA.

(d) & (e): Question does not arise in view of answers at (b) & (c).

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Question does not arise.